

House Bill 923 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Neal of the 1st, Dickson of the 6th, Kaiser of the 59th, and Collins of the 95th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 20-2-212 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 salary schedules for certificated personnel under the "Quality Basic Education Act," so as to
3 revise a provision relating to when an educator who has earned a leadership degree but is not
4 in a leadership position may still be placed on the state salary schedule based on the
5 leadership degree; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
6 purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 20-2-212 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to salary
10 schedules for certificated personnel under the "Quality Basic Education Act," is amended by
11 revising subsection (a) as follows:

12 "(a) The State Board of Education shall establish a schedule of minimum salaries for
13 services rendered which shall be on a ten-month basis and which shall be paid by local
14 units of administration to the various classifications of professional personnel required to
15 be certificated by the Professional Standards Commission. The minimum salary schedule
16 shall provide a minimum salary base for each classification of professional personnel
17 required to be certificated; shall provide for increment increases above the minimum salary
18 base of each classification based upon individual experience and length of satisfactory
19 service; and shall include such other uniformly applicable factors as the state board may
20 find relevant to the establishment of such a schedule. The minimum salary base for
21 certificated professional personnel with bachelor's degrees and no experience, when
22 annualized from a ten-month basis to a 12 month basis, shall be comparable to the
23 beginning salaries of the recent graduates of the University System of Georgia holding
24 bachelor's degrees and entering positions, excluding professional educator teaching
25 positions, in Georgia having educational entry requirements comparable to the
26 requirements for entry into Georgia public school teaching. The placement of teachers on

the salary schedule shall be based on certificate level and years of creditable experience, except that a teacher shall not receive credit for any year of experience in which the teacher received an unsatisfactory performance evaluation. The General Assembly shall annually appropriate funds to implement a salary schedule for certificated professional personnel. For each state fiscal year, the state board shall adopt the salary schedule for which funding has been appropriated by the General Assembly. A local unit of administration shall not pay to any full-time certificated professional employee a salary less than that prescribed by the schedule of minimum salaries, except as required by this Code section; nor shall a local unit of administration pay to any part-time certificated professional employee less than a pro rata portion of the respective salary prescribed by the schedule of minimum salaries, except as required by this Code section. For purposes of this subsection, an educator's placement on the salary schedule shall not be based on a leadership degree, which shall mean a degree earned in conjunction with completion of an educator leadership preparation program approved by the Professional Standards Commission, ~~if the degree was earned on or after July 1, 2010,~~ unless the educator is employed in a leadership position as defined by the State Board of Education, but shall be placed on the salary schedule position attributable to the educator but for the leadership degree; provided, however, that this shall not apply, regardless of whether or not he or she is in a leadership position, to:

(1) An ~~to an~~ educator who possessed a leadership degree prior to July 1, 2010; or

(2) An educator who possessed:

(A) A master's level leadership degree prior to July 1, 2012;

(B) An education specialist level leadership degree prior to July 1, 2013; or

(C) A doctoral level leadership degree prior to July 1, 2014,

as long as he or she was enrolled in such leadership preparation program on or before April 1, 2009, regardless of whether or not he or she is in a leadership position."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.